

## Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /083 W

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R 251831Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0718

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16553

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SY FR XF

SUBJECT: SYRIAN FONMIN TALKS WITH FRENCH ON MIDDLE EAST

1. DURING HIS JUNE 23 STOP-OVER IN PARIS AFTER VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND LONDON, SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM HELD A CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES, SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE ME SERVANT SUMMARIZED FOR US JUNE 25.

2. ON SETTLEMENT EFFORTS, KHADDAM INSISTED THAT ANY PARTIAL AGREEMENT SHOULD INCLUDE THE THREE FRONTS, EGYPTIAN, SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN. SERVANT SAID THE FRENCH

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CONSIDER THAT HIS MENTION OF JORDAN IS SIGNIFICANT,

REFLECTING THE RECENTLY IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN AMMAN AND DAMASCUS.

3. KHADDAM TOLD SAUVAGNARGUES HE WAS DOUBTFUL WHETHER THE U.S. WOULD BE ABLE TO EXERCISE SUFFICIENT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS. IN SUCH CASE, IF THERE IS NO ACTION TOWARDS SETTLEMENT, KHADDAM SAID THE ARABS WILL HAVE TO TAKE DIPLOMATIC ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL. WITHOUT GIVING PRECISE TIMING OR PROCEDURES, KHADDAM INDICATED THIS ACTION WOULD PROBABLY BE AN EFFORT AT THE NEXT UNGA TO REJECT ISRAELI CREDENTIALS FOR PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE, A LA SOUTH AFRICA LAST YEAR. KHADDAM NOTED THAT THE 1949 RESOLUTION ADMITTING ISRAEL TO THE UN CONTAINED CERTAIN "CONDITIONS," I.E., REFERENCE IN ITS PREAMBLE TO THE NOVEMBER 1947 PARTITION PLAN AND TO THE DECEMBER 1948 RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN REFUGEES, BOTH OF WHICH ISRAEL HAD NOT RESPECTED. HE IMPLIED THAT THESE WOULD BE THE GROUNDS FOR ARAB UN ACTION. IN REPLY SAUVAGNARGUES WARNED KHADDAM THAT SUCH UN ACTION WOULD HARDEN NOT ONLY THE ISRAELI, BUT ALSO THE U.S., POSITION AND WOULD CAUSE THE ARABS DIFFICULTIES WITH THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH NORMALLY SUPPORT THEM IN THE UN.

4. SERVANT SAID THE FRENCH BELIEVE THERE MAY BE A BIT OF BLACKMAIL IN KHADDAM'S THREAT OF UN ACTION. THEY THINK THE SYRIANS WANT VERY MUCH NOT TO BE LEFT OUT ON A LIMB SUBSEQUENT TO A NEW ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. HENCE, THE FRENCH CONSIDER THAT SYRIA MIGHT BE WILLING TO ACCEPT EVEN A SMALL DISENGAGEMENT AROUND KUNEITRA.

5. REVERTING TO POSSIBLE ARAB ACTION TO EXCLUDE ISRAEL, SERVANT NOTED THAT QUAI UN DIRECTOR ST. LEGIER DID NOT HAVE KHADDAM'S VIEWS WHEN HE SPOKE TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM LAST WEEK. SERVANT THOUGHT "PERSONALLY" THAT IN LIGHT OF KHADDAM'S REMARKS, THE EUROPEANS, WHO WOULD UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSE ANTI-ISRAELI ACTION, AND THE U.S. WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO UNDERTAKE DIPLOMATIC ACTION WITH ALL PARTIES IN ORDER TO HEAD OFF UN ACTION. IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO EXPLAIN TO MODERATE ARABS,

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AFRICANS, LATIN AMERICANS AND ASIANS THE HEAVY POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF ANTI-ISRAELI MOVES AT THE UN, HE THOUGHT, BUT UNLESS EARLY STEPS ARE TAKEN, THIRD WORLD DELEGATES ARE LIKELY TO BE SWEPT UP IN ANY ARAB ACTION THROUGH AN APPEAL TO NONALIGNED SOLIDARITY.

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